



CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Scenic Cruises
“Unlocking the Northwest Passage” Project
Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
22TN017
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs# 104258258

July 13, 2022

Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
via NIRB public registry

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment request for Scenic Cruises “Unlocking the Northwest Passage” Project Proposal

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On June 23, 2022 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the Scenic Cruises “Unlocking the Northwest Passage” project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the response below as it pertains to NIRB’s request:

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CIRNAC 1: Cruise Ship Route

Due to the current impacts associated with the mining activities in Nunavut, CIRNAC recommends the Proponent minimizes interaction within the areas of active mining development (e.g. Baffinland Iron mine ore transportation by ore carriers in Eclipse sound) to avoid cumulative effects on marine mammals.

CIRNAC 2: Potential for positive effects to Inuit through employment, training, and procurement opportunities

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent prioritize the employment and training of local Inuit as well as procurement with Inuit-owned businesses when implementing project activities. Such efforts will allow for positive effects to be realized by community members and the local Inuit population. As a result, Inuit and Inuit-owned businesses situated in Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven, and Cambridge Bay should be prioritized in any project-related employment, training, and procurement opportunities that may be made available.



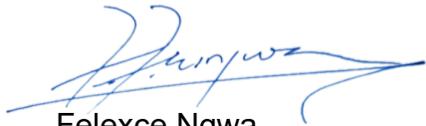
CIRNAC 3: Consultation with interested parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent continue to consult and communicate with the Hamlets and Hunters and Trappers Organizations in each community that could be affected by project activities. Issues that should be considered as part of any consultation activities should include:

- Incorporation of Inuit knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Training and employment opportunities for community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local businesses, and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at courtney.white@canada.ca or David Abernethy at (867) 222-1610 or email at david.abernethy@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

